PEPTIDE ESTERIFICATION

Abstract of the Invention

The invention provides methods and reagents for the esterification of peptides. The methods can be used to (i) enable a peptide in a first sample to be quantified relative

5   to the level of the same peptide in a second sample, (ii) identify peptides in a complex mixtures that are targets for sequencing efforts, and (iii) aid peptide sequence elucidation. Methods that promote esterification and the formation of esters that are labeled with stable isotopes are described. These methods are useful for the analysis of low concentration (e.g., sub-femtomole) peptide mixtures.

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